

MAR 29 2004

OFFICIAL

PATENT  
Docket No.: 54402US028

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

MATTHEW T. SCHOLZ, MARGIE A.  
CRONE, NICHOLAS R. BAUMANN and  
LEON LEVITI'Serial No.: 09/982,741  
Filed: October 17, 2001

Group Art Unit: 1772

Examiner: B. Egan

For: FRICTION CONTROL ARTICLES  
FOR HEALTHCARE  
APPLICATIONSAMENDMENT AND RESPONSECommissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSIONTo Fax No.: 703-872-9306 (10 pgs)  
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile  
transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:3/29/04

Date

Nancy M. Lambert

Signed by: Nancy M. Lambert

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the outstanding Office Action mailed December 29, 2003 in the above-identified application. Applicants believe this response is being submitted within the shortened statutory period for response set by the Examiner, thus no additional fees are due. Applicants request that any additional fees required for the consideration of this response be charged to Deposit Account 13-3723.

32692

Customer Number

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Case No.: 54402US028

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: SCHOLZ, MATTHEW T.  
 Application No.: 09/982741 Group Art Unit: 1772  
 Filed: October 17, 2001 Examiner: B. Egan  
 Title: FRICTION CONTROL ARTICLES FOR HEALTHCARE APPLICATIONS

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Commissioner for Patents  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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3/29/04	Nancy M. Lambert
Date	Signed by: Nancy M. Lambert

Attached is an amendment in the above-identified application. The fee for this amendment is computed as follows:

Claims As Amended						
(1)	(2) Claims Remaining After Amendment	(3)	(4) Highest No. Previously Paid For	(5) Present Extra	(6) Rate	(7) Additional Fee
Total Claims	27	Minus	**	24	3	x \$18.00 \$54.00
Independent Claims	3	Minus	***	2	1	x \$86.00 \$86.00
Additional fee for filing one or more multiple dependent claims, if no such fee has been previously paid					\$290.00	
Total Additional Fee For This Amendment →						\$140.00
** If the "Highest No. Previously Paid For" in this space would be less than 20, write "20" in this space.						
*** If the "Highest No. previously Paid For" in this space would be less than 3, write "3" in this space.						

Please charge to Deposit Account 13-3723 any fees under 37 CFR §§ 1.16 and 1.17 which may be required during the entire pendency of this application. This authorization includes the fee for any extension of time under 37 CFR § 1.136(a) that may be necessary. To the extent any such extension should become necessary, it is hereby requested. One copy of this sheet marked duplicate is also enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

3/29/04  
 Date

By: Nancy M. Lambert  
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Office of Intellectual Property Counsel  
 3M Innovative Properties Company  
 Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833